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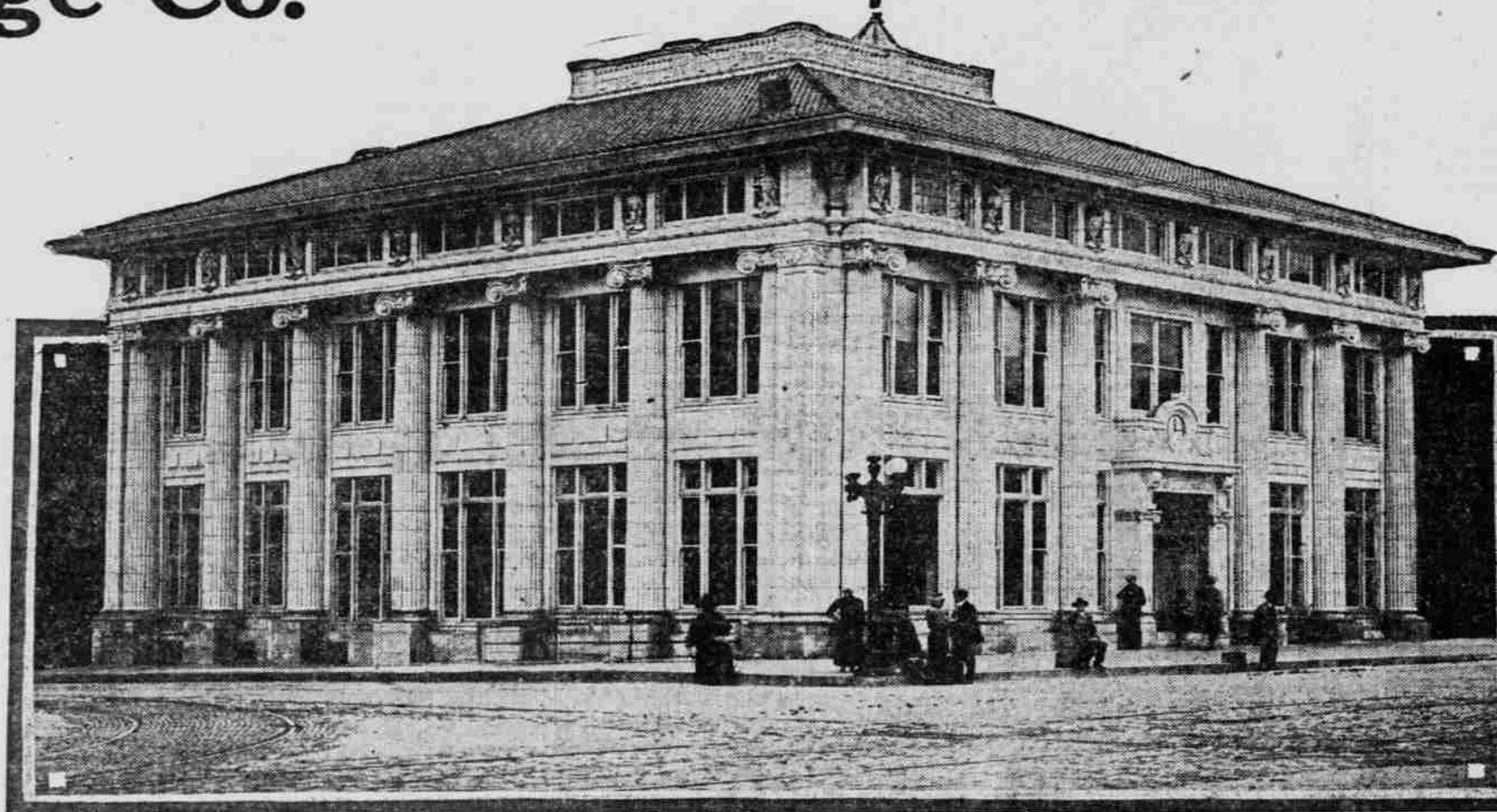
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### DALE GEAR IS HERE

Kaw Manager Predicts Successful Baseball Season.

Players All in Good Condition for Fray.

EXHIBITION GAME SUNDAY

Best Lineup to Be Placed Against K. C. Blues.

Hard Hitting Aggregation to Face Opposing Pitchers.

Dale Gear, manager of the Topeka baseball club in the Western League, is pleased with the Kaw players and predicts a successful season. The crew returned from the training trip last night and reported for practice at the park this morning. A cleaner lot of players never appeared at the local park representing Topeka or any other city.

The fans will be given their first chance to look them over this afternoon and again Sunday, Monday and Tuesday. The Kansas City Blues will be here today and Sunday for exhibition games. All practice games will be called at 3 o'clock.

The team this afternoon will present the regular lineup which will face Denver April 18, unless some unforeseen accident occurs. The lineup and batting order has been played in this manner ever since actual work was started. Gear tried other forms but found the present combination to be more formidable.

None of the men are in condition to begin the season's work by the time the schedule begins, and if he does, the men will not work in the morning after the season starts. Otherwise, they will be compelled to practice mornings until they do get in condition.

McLary is suffering with a slight "charley horse" but the soreness is not great enough to hamper his work. He is entirely recovered within a few days. Rustenhaven, the southpaw, is getting his arm in good condition and it is believed that he will regain his old time form before the season is well advanced. These are the only things excepting routine matters, with which Gear has to contend at the present time.

A Good Hitting Aggregation. The men have struck their batting gait and Gear believes the club will be one of the best hitting aggrega-

tions on the circuit. With McLary in left, Lee in center and Forsythe in right he believes he has been extremely fortunate in assembling a satisfactory outfield. Lee joined the team here but the other pair joined the crowd in Denison at the beginning of the training season. Gear knows the ability of Lee and he believes that the others will be just as strong in both hitting and fielding. They have been hitting hard on the trip.

Gear expects Dulin to deliver the goods at third and thinks he will be better than a number of others over the circuit. Ollom, French and Rapps are the other men on the infield and they have been going a fast clip.

Pitching Staff Looks Good. The pitchers are a likely looking lot. All of last season's men have benefited by experience of last season under Gear's training and the others will round to in good shape. Of course this department will be the last to get in condition. "Pep" Hornsby will be one of the surprises of the season. The fans will see a different man in this field. He is lighter, has a better complexion and is working hard. He has a large amount of pep and Gear believes he will eclipse his performance of the Texas League of 1911.

The Kansas City Blues for this afternoon and Sunday.

The following is the batting order: Ollom, 2b; Dulin, 3b; Forsythe, 1b; McLary, rf; Rapps, 1b; French, ss; Lee, cf; Billings and Crisp, c, and McElloch will start the game on the mound.

### A SOCIAL INSURANCE.

Playground Movement Means Much, Says National Secretary.

According to Charles Frederick Weller, associate secretary of the Playground and Recreation Association of America, who spoke at a special Commercial club dinner at the noon hour today, the playground movement in Topeka should be made to serve as a social insurance. He suggested that it would be a wise move to bring a "social engineer" to Topeka to map out a general playground and recreation plan for the city.

The meeting was attended by one hundred business men and women who are interested in the playground work here. No action was taken in regard to procuring the services of an expert, but the question of doing so will be discussed at a latter date.

Mr. Weller said: "The school plant in Kansas is worth \$23,000,000 and is used only one hour in nine. It would be economy to get a larger use of it. Last year two hundred and eighty-five cities in the United States had supervised playgrounds. We only count those as playgrounds for without supervision they may be worse than no playground at all. There were 5,320 employed leaders in charge of these grounds."

"The children are not playing as they did in former years; they are losing the knowledge of games."

Allevies Home Coming Beatings. Alleging that every time her husband comes home and finds her alone that he proceeds to administer various and sundry beatings, Minnie Ellis has filed suit for divorce against Oliver Ellis. The woman is proprietor of the Postoffice restaurant, 30 North Kansas avenue, she says, and lives at 230 Norris street. She says he raises a disturbance, has knocked her down and choked her. They were married April 10, 1908.

### RECORD IN MAIL

Topeka Office Handles 1,375,511 Pounds in March.

Publishing Business Brings Up Totals Here.

Leroy Powell, Topeka superintendent of mails, today finished his detailed compilation of the amount of mail handled here during the month of March, and asserts that no office of similar size in the country can approach his showing. Exactly 1,375,511 pounds of mailing matter passed through the Topeka office in March. If the mail wagons used in the windy month—a total of 2,508—were stretched in a parade, they would reach from the Mexican bridge to the Wakarusa station, a distance of 12 miles.

The compilation of this report was recently provided for in a special act of congress. Its object is to provide the postmaster general with information with which to place the placing of screen wagon contracts in Washington and not placed by local offices. H. L. Palmer is under a four-year contract to supply Topeka with screen wagons to be used in the transport of government mails.

"I'm proud of this report," Superintendent Powell declared. "The large amount of mail that passes through our hands is explained by the fact that Topeka is quite a publishing center. When blue tag matter was mailed we found it necessary to use six or seven wagons each day. Sixty-eight car loads of mail matter has been handled this month."

"Blue-tag" matter is postal lingo for freight. The detailed statement as reported by Mr. Powell, follows: Pouches received 2,190. Weight of this mail and equipment 53,411 pounds. Number of sacks received 7,543. Weight of these sacks and contents 218,249 pounds. Total weight of mail and equipment received 271,660 pounds.

Number of pouches dispatched 2,397. Weight of these pouches and contents 68,242 pounds. Number of sacks dispatched 26,599. Weight of these sacks and contents 1,035,609 pounds. Total weight of mail matter and equipment dispatched 1,103,851 pounds.

Amount of mail matter and equipment handled between the main office and stations where carriers are employed 35,773 pounds.

Grand total of all mail matter and equipment handled (incoming and outgoing), 1,375,511.

### MRS. PERRY'S PLACE.

And It Will Be a Big Job for Board Control.

Some time this afternoon the board of control will name a new matron for the girls' industrial school at Beloit to succeed Mrs. Julia D. Perry, resigned. The appointment will be made by the board of control acting in conjunction with the board of correction, under whose jurisdiction the industrial school will be placed after July 1.

There are several applicants for the position and recently sent her resignation to the board of control. Until July 1, the school will be under the management of the control board. After that date, the institution will be under the jurisdiction of the board of correction by virtue of a recent law enacted by the Kansas legislature. The successor to Mrs. Perry, however, will take charge of her new work at once.

Mrs. Perry is regarded as one of the best girls' reform school teachers in the country. Her work at Beloit has been wonderfully successful.

### SNAP SHOTS AT HOME NEWS.

The Potwin school building will be ready for occupancy by Monday.

The regular April meeting of the board of education will be held Monday night.

The Topeka Y. C. T. U. will meet Monday afternoon at four o'clock at the Y. W. C. A.

The Rev. J. W. Brown of Lawrence will address the men's meeting at the Kansas Avenue Methodist church Sunday afternoon.

Judge George H. Whitcomb in the second division of the district court will hear the case of the new chief of police.

Company "B" of the High School Rifle club held a shoot this week. The scores of the five high men: Lieutenant Hesse, 23; Harry Davis, 21; Lieutenant Price, 19; Harry Colvin, 18; Walter Polly, 12.

A number of society women of Topeka have been soliciting advertising this week for the "Boy Blue" program. Several of them were selling tickets for the new performance on April 12 and 14. The proceeds will go towards the playground fund.

The police officers generally are well pleased with the announced appointment of Colonel Hughes as chief. It is pretty generally believed that the new chief will keep a number of the experienced men at least on the force, and nearly all the men like him personally.

Both divisions of the district court are working hard today to clean up their dockets for the close of the January term of the court. The new term begins Monday morning at 9 o'clock. The January term will be officially adjourned in both divisions late this afternoon.

Dan Carden, acting chief of police, dislikes ostentation. For a few days he is entitled to wear the beautiful gold and silver badge of the police chief. But, although he is technically wearing the badge, it is not in evidence. It is reported peacefully in the acting chief's pocket.

Dr. Charles M. Sheldon will speak at the Central Y. M. C. A. Sunday afternoon at 3:15 o'clock on "Topeka; Its Good and Its Bad." Dr. Sheldon has been making some investigations and will have some suggestions to offer. W. M. Shaver will be the soloist, and the singing will be in charge of M. C. Holmes.

The police department is working as smoothly this morning as usual, despite the loss of its chief. Dan Carden is on duty in plain clothes for the first time in a long while, and is acting chief. The force will be without a chief only a few days, however, until the announced appointment of Colonel J. W. F. Hughes can be confirmed.

### NORTH SIDE NEWS

Former North Topeka Girl Tells of Dayton Flood.

Parent-Teachers' Meeting Monday Evening.

A letter has been received from Mrs. Bertha Mays, of Dayton, Ohio, who was formerly Bertha Morthland, of North Topeka, telling of the flood there. She said in part: "There were 55 people in the postoffice there for three days and nights with nothing to eat and no place to sleep. The water was from twelve to fifteen feet in the street around them and eight feet deep in the building they occupied. Fires were raging all around them and the next building was burned. Explosions were occurring near them and they did not know at what minute their building might catch fire." After the water went down Mrs. Mays went into the business section and says, that the stores along Main street were completely cleaned out. In the residence section the water was in the second stories and one story buildings were completely covered. The town is now under martial law and everyone must be off the streets at six o'clock. There is no street car service and no gas or electric lights nor much drinking water.

There will be a meeting of the Parent-Teachers' association of Grant school Monday night at the school building on Topeka avenue. The boys' and girls' orchestra will furnish music and Fred Voland and Mrs. Evans will address the meeting.

Church Election. The annual business meeting of the Second Presbyterian church was held Thursday night at the church. J. H. Skinner and J. W. Priddy were re-elected elders. Geo. F. Waychoff was re-elected deacon and Thos. Page, J. N. Stewart, David Bowie, Chas. Suit, and J. R. Johnson were re-elected trustees. All these officers will hold their office for three years.

"Tatters" Was a Success. "Tatters," a three act play was given by the members of the West Indiana Dramatic club at the K. and L. of S. hall Thursday night. The leads were taken by Miss Mary Calkins and Mr. Ralph Taylor. The club presented the play in a very creditable manner and it was well received by the audience. This play has been presented at Silver Lake, West Indiana, K. and L. of S. and Pleasant Ridge.

Lyman and Quincy Tie. Lyman and Quincy schools met on the diamond yesterday afternoon and the game resulted in a 12 to 12 score. Batteries for Lyman—McGee and Answorth; Quincy—Graham and Stanley.

Church Notices. At the Kansas Avenue M. E. church Dr. Beam will deliver the address in the morning services. Sunday school at 9:30; Junior League at 3:00; Senior League at 6:45 and preaching by the pastor at 7:30 on the subject of "A

Man's Religion."

At the Central Avenue Christian church, the Rev. John D. Zimmerman will deliver an address on "Ideal City and Its Government," tomorrow night. At the North Topeka Congregational church Rev. T. J. Peterson will choose the subject "Divine Providence." Sunday school at 10 o'clock, church at 11 o'clock and Christian Endeavor at 6:15.

Personal Mention. The Baptist Young People held a business meeting at the home of Miss Helen Wellman on North Kansas avenue.

Arthur Getchell of Newman, who is well known in North Topeka, has sold his store and will move to Missouri to start a chicken ranch on a forty-acre tract which he has recently purchased there.

F. M. Hastings of Grantville was in North Topeka on a short business trip this morning.

Miss Bess Jones of Rossville is in Topeka today to attend the teachers' meeting and to be the guest over Sunday of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Jones, of 909 North Jackson street.

Mr. and Mrs. Willis Cochran of Menard are shopping in North Topeka today.

Mrs. Harrison Smith will come from Kansas City today after an extended visit with her daughter there.

George Weir of Silver Lake is in North Topeka today on business.

A dozen Boy Scouts marched through North Topeka this morning to Calhoun Bluffs.

Miss Goldie Hooks of Rossville is visiting friends in North Topeka today.

Mrs. G. L. Wallace is the guest of her son, Dave Wallace, of North Jackson street.

W. S. Massey of Grantville is in North Topeka today.

Miss Maud Massey, will accompany him home tonight.

Mr. and Mrs. L. B. Alters, Mrs. H. W. Miller and Mr. and Mrs. John Priddy of Rossville are in North Topeka today on business and visiting friends.

The infant child of Mr. and Mrs. Tracy Brown of 1512 North Quincy street is very ill with pneumonia. The child is but a year old and within that year has suffered from measles, mumps, whooping cough and two attacks of pneumonia.

James Robertson left last night for Nampa, Idaho, where he will make his future home. Frank Walker went to Grand Island, Neb., yesterday to visit friends. Mr. and Mrs. C. O. Wentworth and Mrs. V. McPherson left yesterday for the west. They will make an extended visit in California and other points. J. and J. J. Oters left Friday for Seattle, Wash., where they will remain permanently. Mrs. La. Froebelle and daughter Anna of Silver Lake are visiting in North Topeka for a short time. Miss Rena LeClaire has returned from a short visit to Rossville. Dr. Charles O. Byerley has gone to Kiro today on a short business trip. Mr. Frank Dowler, who is attending dental college in Kansas City is visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Dowler. T. J. Cochran and son Ivan of Richards, Iowa, are the guests of R. L. Hart of 513 Western avenue. Mrs. H. M. Binns and daughter Ethel of Silver Lake are the guests of Mrs. Binns' daughter, Mrs. E. A. Rutter. Mr. Carl Nichols is seriously ill at his home in West Indiana with pneumonia. A. M. Petro, druggist—Adv. Mary Crites was divorced from John Crites March 22 on the ground of ex-

treme cruelty. Her former name, Thomas, was restored to her. James Ross of Perry was in North Topeka yesterday and sold to M. Bishop his 80-acre farm which lies north of Perry, for the consideration of \$4,000.

The mental condition of ex-Sheriff John Wilkerson, who was adjudged insane some months ago, is very little improved. His physical condition is very much improved. He is at his home, 414 Park street, and his wife has the sole care of him. Mrs. Ritchie claims order has been issued against her son, I. L. Case implements. Pratt Bros.—Adv.

### SUIT AGAINST KIENE.

Josephine Ritchie Would Enjoin Sheriff From Selling Home.

The first suit against L. L. Kiene in his official position as sheriff of the county was filed this morning by Josephine Ritchie. The petition asks that Kiene be enjoined from selling what she avers is her home to satisfy judgment against her husband, John Ritchie.

The judgment and execution against Ritchie grew out of the famous case of Ritchie against the city, the Fifth ward sewer case. The court found for the city and entered judgment on which an execution was issued. Kiene levied on the Ritchie property including one place that Mrs. Ritchie claims is her home. A temporary restraining order has been issued pending a hearing on the case.

### CATASTROPHE IN ITALY

Avalanche Imperils 200 Laborers—Snow and Cold.

Rome, April 5.—Two hundred laborers and engineers working on the Furka pass across the Alps were blockaded yesterday by the fall of an avalanche near Domodossola. Some of them have already died from exposure. Great anxiety is felt whether it will be possible to rescue the remainder. A spell of cold weather set in today throughout Italy. Snow fell during the night on Vesuvius.

### LOCAL MENTION.

Safety razor blades sharpened better than new, 25c-50c doz. Brunt Drug Co.—Adv.

Kohl's straw hat cleaner. Makes them look like new. Rex Pharmacy, 1001 Kan. ave.—Adv.

Pay cash and save 50c on the dollar at the Harris Laundry, 112 Kan. ave. Buy in your bundles. Call and get them at the following reduced prices: All shirts 20c, collars 2c, cuffs 4c, underwear per suit 10c, union suits 12c, handkerchiefs 2c, overalls 10c. We deliver no bundles at these prices. C. T. Harris, Prop. Phone 307.—Adv.

Dressmaking and sewing school. Mrs. Ruby E. Whittecar, 1013 Jackson.—Adv.

Free 47 extra pants with every suit to order \$15. This week only. Glasgow Woolen Mills, 729 Kansas ave.—Adv.

It will pay you to get our estimate on that lumber bill. J. B. Whelan & Co., 4th and S. F. tracks. Phone 965.—Adv.

I. Gilberg, tailor, at 728 Kan. ave., does all kinds of ladies' and gents' work belonging to the tailor trade. Phone 492.—Adv.

See Fouch's awful low prices on disk harrows, riding and walking plows and cultivators.—Adv.